



IVC US

Light Commercial Installation Guide - Sheet Vinyl

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the Way

IVC US Light Commercial Installation Guide - Sheet Vinyl Flooring

IVC US recommends the following guidelines for preparation and installation of all IVC US Light Commercial products using permanent bond adhesive. Permanent Full Spread is the required installation method for all IVC US Commercial and Light Commercial applications.

Please note that Light Commercial flooring installations require specialized applications that are different than Residential. IVC US recommends contracting a qualified commercial flooring installation service for all Commercial and Light Commercial installations. The installer should be well-versed and experienced with all procedures indicative of quality installations with resilient flooring.

*Please contact IVC US Technical Services at **888-225-8287** with any questions.*

Permanent Full Spread Bond Adhesive Installation Method (Light Commercial)

Materials Required for Installation:

- 1/16" X 1/32" X 1/32" U notch trowel
- IVC iGrip Permanent Adhesive
 - If unavailable, approved secondary alternatives include:
 - o Taylor 2091 (commercial)
 - o Henry© 650 P
- **NOTE:** IVC will not be held responsible for problems that may arise for approved secondary alternative adhesives. Please contact the approved secondary alternative adhesives' manufacturer with issues.
- IVC Infuze Seam Sealer
- IVC FLEX-PRIM Acrylic Latex Primer
- Sharp Utility Knife
- Straight edge
- 100 lb. roller
- Plastic putty knife, white, clean cloths and denatured alcohol if seaming is required

Acceptable Underlayments:

- **Wood underlayment**

*Wood underlayment must be American Plywood Association (APA) rated underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. All wood subfloors require a double layer construction. Porous wood underlayments must be primed. Any failure of the underlayment or flooring due to the underlayment is **NOT** the responsibility of IVC US. IVC US does not recommend installing resilient flooring over wood flooring or subfloors applied directly over concrete or sleeper-construction floors.*

- **Concrete** — See *Grade Levels* below. All concrete underlayments require moisture testing.

Grade Levels

Suspended: An acceptable suspended floor is a concrete or wood substrate with a minimum of 18” (460mm) of well-ventilated air space beneath it. IVC US recommends that a moisture vapor barrier be placed on the ground below the air space.

On-Grade: An acceptable on-grade floor is a concrete substrate in direct surface contact with the ground at the surrounding ground level. The concrete slab should be protected from moisture penetration and incorporate a proven moisture vapor barrier.

Below-Grade: An acceptable below-grade floor is a concrete substrate partially or completely in contact with the ground below the average surrounding ground level. The concrete slab should be protected from moisture penetration and incorporate a proven moisture vapor barrier.

- **VCT** (well bonded, on and above grade – in absence of waxes or sealers)
- **Ceramic** (well bonded & properly prepared)
- **Terrazzo** (well bonded & properly prepared)
- **Self-leveling and patching compounds** (latex fortified Portland cement based only)
- **Resilient floor** (no more than 1 layer, well bonded, non-cushioned)
- **Radiant heat floors** (not exceeding 85°F (29°C) and approved by the manufacturer for the use of their product with resilient vinyl flooring applications)
- **Gypcrete** can be utilized when necessary due to radiant heat and in high rise buildings. Gypcrete must be sealed using **IVC FLEX-PRIM Acrylic Latex Primer** to stabilize the surface for adhesive bond. All issues with gypcrete cracking, crumbling, powdering and resulting in the release of adhesive bond are NOT warranted by IVC US.

- **OSB (underlayment grade)**

OSB underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. Underlayment panels and joints must be fastened and reinforced according to manufacturer’s instructions. Completely sand the floor with a floor sander, so that the floor is smooth and flat. **NOTE:** The chips in OSB overlap. Without sanding properly, OSB has high and low spots throughout the floor that could telegraph through the vinyl.

Surface must be primed using IVC FLEX-PRIM Acrylic Latex Primer.

- **Particle board (underlayment grade)**

Particle board underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer.

Surface must be primed using IVC FLEX-PRIM Acrylic Latex Primer.

Unacceptable Surfaces:

- Inter-flex and any perimeter bonded products
- Cushion-back vinyl
- Any floating floor system
- Carpet
- Resilient tile installed below grade

IVC US will not warrant or accept responsibility of any kind for flooring failures related to the use of unacceptable substrates and surfaces.

Floor Preparation:

Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction marks and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would interfere with a good bond. Fill all holes and cracks with a latex fortified Portland cement based patching compound. IVC US only recommends the use of latex fortified Portland cement based products as a satisfactory patching or leveling compound.

IVC US recommends priming extremely porous floors with IVC FLEX-PRIM Acrylic Latex Primer to prevent over absorption of adhesives, dust containment, and to insure a better bond of the adhesive to the subfloor/underlayment.

Moisture Testing: It is the responsibility of the flooring contractor and the installer to confirm all concrete substrates, both old and new, for moisture transmission using the Calcium Chloride Moisture Test according to ASTM F-1869. Moisture vapor transmission should not exceed the recommended levels of 8 lbs. or less per 1,000 sq. ft. in 24 hours. This test should be performed and documented prior to installation. A second testing option determines relative humidity in concrete floor slabs using In-Situ Probes, which should be less than 90% RH per ASTM F-2170 before, during and after installation. These acceptable moisture readings are only applicable when using iGrip adhesive.

PH LEVELS: PH must be between 5 and 9

Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required. Any defects should be immediately reported to the retail store from which the flooring was purchased before installation. IVC US will not be responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation. The job site and all flooring material and adhesive must be kept for 24 hours before, during and after installation between 65° F and 85° F (18°C and 29°C).

PLEASE NOTE: *If removal of existing resilient floor covering is required, follow all recommended Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) work practices at www.rfci.com.*

Trowel Specifications		
Application Width x Depth x Spacing	Spread Rate	Type of Installation
1/16" x 1/32" 1/32" U Trowel 1.6 mm x 0.8 mm x 0.8 mm U	Up to 350 sq. ft./ gal Up to 8.6 sq. meters / liter	Porous and Non-Porous Substrate

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Permanent Full Spread Bond Adhesive Installation (Light Commercial) Steps:

Step 1

Align the pattern with the most dominant wall, and using a sharp utility knife trim away excess material along the walls, cabinet and other permanent objects, leaving approximately 2" of material (rough cut) to be trimmed off later.

Step 2

Make relief cuts at corners to allow the material to lay flat before the final cuts are made. Final trimming does not require a 1/8" to 1/4" expansion gap when using IVC iGrip Permanent Adhesive as this is a permanent installation.

Step 3

Fold back half of the material and apply IVC iGrip Permanent Adhesive to the substrate using the appropriate trowel. If a seam is required, leave an 18" dry zone at the edge of the seam. Then follow the Seaming Instructions in a Permanent Full Spread Bond Installation (Light Commercial) found below.

Step 4

Do not immediately place the material into wet adhesive. To avoid bubbling, allow time for the adhesive to flash before positioning the material. There will be a slight transfer of adhesive to the skin when it's ready for installation. Do not allow the adhesive to dry completely.

Step 5

Slide the material in place and remove air and vapors under the material using a 100 lb. roller over the entire adhered vinyl.

Step 6

Repeat steps 3-5 for the remaining half of the flooring material.

Seaming Instructions in a Full Spread Permanent Bond Adhesive Installation (Light Commercial):

1. After positioning the flooring, over-lap the seam edges (make sure to match patterns). For non-descript/non-patterned/random designs which do not have (an obvious) pattern repeat, over-lap the seam edges an average of 2 inches (however, some patterns may require extending beyond this suggestion). This is valid for all sheet products from IVC.
2. Place a 4"-5" wide scrap of the vinyl between the substrate and vinyl, under the seam area.
3. Double cut through the layers of vinyl, creating a compression fit when the seam edges are joined.
4. Fold back both sides of the seam area and apply the IVC iGrip Permanent Adhesive to the dry zone. Allow the adhesive to flash before placing the material into the adhesive.
5. Place one side of vinyl into the adhesive and roll the seam area using a 100 lb. roller.
6. Apply small bead of IVC Infuze Seam Sealer along the edge of the installed vinyl.

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7. Place the edge of the uninstalled vinyl against the edge of the installed vinyl and press into place.
8. Remove excess bond/sealer using a plastic putty knife followed by wiping the seam area using a clean dry cloth followed immediately with a clean cloth dampened with denatured alcohol.
9. Using a clean cloth, repeat until all residue is removed from the surface of the vinyl and protect the seam for six hours minimum.

Additional Instructions/Notes:

- Always inspect the flooring thoroughly before installation. Report any defects **PRIOR** to installation.
- **DO NOT** slide heavy appliances or furniture over or across the flooring. Always lift objects and place them on a hard board between the flooring and object and gently reposition them.
- Use permanent caulk next to bathtubs, showers, sliding doors, patio doors, around metal door jambs or similar areas.
- For bathroom installations, it is not necessary to remove the toilet. Make relief cuts around the perimeter of the toilet and make sure the vinyl flooring is laying flat before trimming off the excess material once installed. Apply caulk around the toilet, next to the bathtubs and showers to prevent moisture from getting under the vinyl. Note: if there is a ceramic sanitary cove and no place to install trim mold, you can apply silicone caulk around the walls.
- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.

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